

with more purpose, these two men would not be dead, in my opinion.

I think triage was practiced. The intention was focused on the important people. We have Congressmen, Senators on Capitol Hill, and given the fact that we were not prepared, we have limited people who know how to handle this problem, which is most unfortunate and a little unforgivable because anthrax has been a clearly recognized problem since the Gulf War. They even, at one point, ordered all members of the Army to be vaccinated against anthrax.

If we became worried about anthrax during the Gulf War and we have had a situation where at one point all the members of the Army were ordered to be vaccinated against anthrax, why is there so little expertise in the country when an anthrax outbreak occurs in Washington, so little expertise that we do not have enough to take care of the situation at the post office, at the same time we take care of the situation on the Hill in Senate and House buildings? They did not move fast enough. Information did not flow fast enough.

Our hospital system has been under pressure for the last 20 years and certainly will see no relief because of the ideologues in this Congress who insist that we continue to cut local facilities, hospital facilities unnecessarily. Of course, in the Washington, D.C., area they closed down D.C. General Hospital.

We watched the spectacle of two postmen who went to a hospital and because the hospital was so badly informed, because of their own pressures, they were turned away, and when they went back the next day, they were already dying. Here is a triage setup, and here is a setup which flows out of the inadequacy of our basic health system.

We should have a health system which is not just prepared to combat terrorism, but one that makes certain everybody gets equal and rapid treatment. It did not happen. Joseph P. Curseen is dead as a result. Thomas Lee Morris is dead as a result.

Then we have the spectacle of the D.C. General Hospital being used as a major headquarters for the process of dispensing the antibiotic and giving out information. D.C. General Hospital has been closed. The same economic forces, the same pitch on our health care facilities that has gone on throughout the country has forced the closure of D.C. General Hospital. But because there was no other place, the emergency center had to be set up at the D.C. General Hospital. The working class had to do with a closed hospital, a jerry-built situation to take care of a major problem.

Joseph P. Curseen is dead. Thomas Lee Morris is dead. They were postal workers at the bottom of the heap, and we are not taking care of our working

families when we allow that kind of system to take place. When decisions are made, triage decisions, some people are more important than others.

It is important we go forward with a health care system that serves everybody. That health care system would certainly be ready for any kind of bioterrorism in the future, and workers' families would be treated in the same manner as any other families. There would be no priority set for anybody. Everyone would have the same service.

I conclude by saying that working families in the struggle against terrorism are as important as any other component. They may be the most important component in our struggle against terrorism.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2944. An act making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

The message was announced that the Senate insist, upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 2944) entitled "An Act making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mr. INOUE, Mr. DEWINE, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. STEVENS, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. KAPTUR) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LIPINSKI, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MCKINNEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STUPAK, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ALLEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KUCINICH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. STEARNS) to revise and ex-

tend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. COLLINS, for 5 minutes, November 8.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. ISSA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STEARNS, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, November 8, 2001, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4527. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities; Puerto Rico [Region II Docket No. PR6-233a, FRL-7093-9] received October 26, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4528. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; One-Hour Ozone Attainment Demonstration for Philadelphia—Wilmington—Trenton Ozone Nonattainment Area [MD-074-3085; FRL-7089-1] received October 26, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4529. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Delaware; Post-1996 Rate-of-Progress Plans and One-Hour Ozone Attainment Demonstration for the Philadelphia—Wilmington—Trenton Ozone Nonattainment Area [DE-1033; FRL-7089-3] received October 26, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4530. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Control of Air Pollution from Volatile Organic Compounds, Solvent Using Processes, Surface Coating Processes, Aerospace Manufacturing and Rework Operations [TX-129-1-7471a; FRL-7091-3] received October 26, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4531. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides From Stationary Sources in the Houston/Galveston